

## REFUGEE & IMMIGRATION MINISTRIES

### RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Refugee and Immigration Ministries provide United Methodists with an opportunity to demonstrate radical hospitality to sojourners among us.

### ARRIVALS AND CASES SERVED

Some 1,044 refugees were assigned to UMCOR. Most were sponsored by relatives and the affiliate offices of Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program. Refugees came predominantly from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Burma, Cuba, Russia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Thailand, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam. Thirty-three congregations sponsored 182 persons who had no relatives.

Justice For Our Neighbors (JFON) clinics served more than 300 clients each month—mostly women and children. JFON attorneys secured asylum or temporary protection for qualified immigrants and reunited U.S. citizens and residents with their immigrant family members.

### PROGRAM ACTIVITY

Alarmed by the divergence of public policy and the plight of immigrants, UMCOR invited United Methodist leaders to become involved in discussions of current legislation. Underscored was the value of undocumented immigrants as children of God, as well as persons who make valuable contributions to the US economy. UMCOR supported a more comprehensive approach to immigration reform.

### PROJECT SUPPORT

In this period, nine small grants went to local programs serving asylum seekers, former immigrant detainees and immigrants; 23 refugee families received emergency grants.

### JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

In addition to direct service to immigrants, JFON staff have conducted immigration service trainings and led presentations on the issues for church and government workers. On the next page you'll meet some people they've assisted. (Names have been changed for the sake of privacy.)

# SUCCESS STORIES

## NETWORKS OF SUPPORT

- 1 Laura has been living in the US for 23 years. She was a beneficiary of the legalization law passed in 1986 and properly applied. However, due to several mishaps, Laura unknowingly missed a crucial deadline. She has since that time tried unsuccessfully several times to find out the status of her application. She later moved to Orlando, FL and is living there with a 13-year-old son. The mother and son came to JFON clinic with a notice of eviction for a date less than two weeks away. JFON's volunteers and pastors worked frantically on many fronts to ensure that the family would not be left out in the street. Laura will continue to receive legal assistance from JFON to resolve her immigration status. The congregations involved in the JFON ministry in Orlando are working together to provide a network of support for the family.
- 2 Pedro applied for naturalization 10 years ago and was still not a US citizen when he came to a JFON clinic in New York, NY. NY Regional Attorney, T.J. Mills, discovered that the immigration service had lost his file. Recently, however, Pedro had also become disabled, which made it harder for him to qualify for citizenship. Thanks to JFON volunteers, Pedro received the coaching and assistance that helped him to pass the history, civic, and English language tests. He succeeded in becoming a US citizen.
- 3 James had done all the right things to petition for his two children to come and join him in the US. However, during the week that the children were due to be interviewed at the US Embassy in Guyana, James suffered a stroke. Although one child was approved without problem, the other was delayed due to a six-week security check. A JFON attorney successfully obtained intervention from a federal legislator to help the family. The Embassy expedited the security checks and the daughter was at her father's bedside within five days of the stroke.

## HEALTH & WELFARE MINISTRIES

### PROGRAMS

Through UMCOR, United Methodists can minister to the whole person. Community and individual health connect with not only nutrition but also sustainable medical care, decent housing, and peace in communities that have suffered in wars or natural disasters that deplete already scarce resources. Health and Welfare programs focus on community-based health care, ministries in disease prevention and treatment, and programs for women and children.

#### ESTABLISHED A HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HIMS)

The Mary Johnston Hospital in Manila is the only hospital of the Philippines United Methodist Church. Health & Welfare assisted the Mary Johnston Hospital to establish a Hospital Management Information System (HIMS) in 2005. The three-month project was undertaken by JK Technosoft, a software company based in India. The Hospital has linked 30 computer workstations. All the staff has been trained. The HIMS will greatly facilitate the work at Mary Johnston Hospital.

#### NEW OPERATING ROOMS AND SURGICAL WARD IN SIERRA LEONE

Two new Operating Rooms and a Post Op Surgical Ward were opened at the United Methodist Maternity & Health Center, Kissy, Sierra Leone, on January 24, 2005. The project was supported by churches in Indiana (Operation Doctor) and by Health & Welfare.

#### NEW METHODIST CHURCH GLOBAL AIDS FUND

The 2004 General Conference created a United Methodist Church Global AIDS Fund and appointed a committee with a mandate to raise \$8 million. The Global AIDS Fund will support local congregations, Conferences and organizations related to the United Methodist Church that aim to decrease the burden of AIDS. The committee met at the General Board of Church & Society in Washington, DC and approved a request for \$200,000 from the World Service Contingency Funds that was submitted to the Connectional Table. The Connectional Table approved the request. The committee has appointed Bishop Fritz and Etta Mae Mutti as Joint Coordinators of the UMC Global AIDS Fund. General Board of Global Ministries, General Board of Church & Society, and United Methodist Communications are overseeing the work of the UMC Global AIDS Fund.

#### PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROJECT IN KAZAKHSTAN

An eastern Kazakhstan health project has improved the primary health care knowledge and services of the region and empowered individuals to improve their own health. The project staff trained community volunteers and also worked with local health professionals and the regional hospital in prevention and early detection of diseases like hypertension, diabetes and TB. UMCOR partner CORDAID provided funding.

### EVENTS

A Congregational Health Ministry conference drew 37 participants representing 26 Annual Conferences to hear presentations on “A Practical Approach to Health, Healing and Wholeness.” Attendees were offered a variety of practical information on topics ranging from parish nursing, HIV/AIDS, health advocacy, clergy wellness and grief counseling.

A workshop on “Malaria, HIV/AIDS and Community Based Health Care” was held in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from December 5-10, 2005, for 26 United Methodist health care workers in West Africa from Cameroon, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone. A network called UMCAMNA (United Methodist Church AIDS Malaria Network Africa) was established at the workshop. UMCOR will work with the members to support community projects to battle malaria and HIV/AIDS. UMCOR has established an Advance Special #982009 “Malaria Control Program, Africa & Asia”.

## UMCOR SAGER BROWN: NETWORK OF VOLUNTEERS AND MATERIAL RESOURCES

RELIEF SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION	QUANTITIES
Meals served by workers	24,753
Emergency supplies shipped around the globe	\$4 Million In Supplies
Hurricane disaster zone supplies following the devastation of hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma	\$7.6 Million In Supplies
	- Alabama \$78,060
	- Louisiana \$6,065,407
	- Mississippi \$949,617
	- Texas \$532,507

COMMUNITY SERVICE	QUANTITIES
Volunteers delivered meals to elderly residents	6,000 meals
Volunteers repaired houses in the Sager Brown region	58 houses

In 2005, the facility was led by a transitional management team headed by Ted Warnock, a United Methodist missionary assigned to UMCOR. Long-time missionaries Charles and Patty Maddox joined the staff as director and volunteer coordinator in February 2006.

## UMCOR SAGER BROWN SHIPMENTS

## WORLD HUNGER & POVERTY AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & DEVELOPMENT

Destination	Value Each	Tbilisi Georgia	South Asia	Grenada	Sri Lanka	Azerbaijan	Florida Conference	Armenia	Pensacola, Florida	Rio Bravo, Mexico	DRC	Afghanistan	Liberia	Sudan	Totals
Health Kits	\$12	79,286	36,044			38,144		30,295		4,241	16,100		14,000	4,901	223,011
School Kits	\$11	20,880		4,505	16,768	18,832		10,079			5,186		3,360	5,041	84,651
Layettes	\$35														1,026
Sewing Kits	\$18	6,274				15,174		5,714			2,322		5,625		35,109
Blankets												204			204
Flood Buckets	\$45						1,692		936	4					2,632
Bars of Soap		14,440													14,440
Boxed Diapers		31													31
Bales T-Shirts				12				6		6			6		10
Boxes of Clothing												14			14
Pairs of Shoes											124	677			801
		\$1,324,454	\$432,528	\$49,555	\$184,448	\$948,702	\$76,140	\$624,336	\$42,120	\$51,087	\$303,207	\$34,005	\$319,480	\$114,263	<b>\$4,504,325</b>

Number of Tons: 305

### A NEW MISSIONARY

Africa Regional Coordinator for Sustainable Agriculture, Mozart Adevu, was commissioned a Global Ministries missionary. In his first engagements as a missionary he visited at 15 churches seeking for covenant relationships and support for Sustainable Agriculture & Development (SA&D). He also participated in the Operation Classroom consultation with Bishops of Liberia and Sierra Leone.

### BEEKEEPING MICRO-LOAN PROGRAM IN LIBERIA

The UMCOR supported Beekeeping micro-loan program, which had been initiated in four communities in the Ganta area of Liberia has been a novelty for the country. Workers anticipate that from 171 beehives, a bountiful harvest will result—valued at \$4,500.

This amount will be a great morale booster for the communities and will further engage them in seeking additional successes in their cooperation with UMCOR. For example, William Zolo who participated in SA&D's beekeeping training in Liberia currently has 42 hives of which 12 have been colonized. He recently harvested 22 gallons of honey from five hives with a total value of \$330.00. This is substantial income in communities where unemployment is almost 100% and the wage is \$2 per day or less. In Sierra Leone, Esther Moro, first introduced to beekeeping by SA&D in 2002, appeared on BBC television to describe her beekeeping efforts.

### TRAINING

In the UMCOR model, trainers learn how to train others.

### GHANA DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The Methodist Church in Ghana invited SA&D to train 25 people in production and utilization of moringa.

Some 329 farmers—139 of them women—from nine communities in the Kamina area completed an 18-week training in Community Integrated Crop and Pest Management (CICPM). Fifteen facilitators were selected from the communities in a previous SA&D-led training held in Kamina in 2004. Each of the 329 persons trained has made a commitment to train at least 10 others from their respective communities.

LIFESAVER. LISTEN. HOSPITALITY. HARVEST. BE THERE.

## WORDS OF HOPE.

At a glance, these words tell the story of work United Methodists are doing around the world through United Methodist Committee on Relief. All bear witness to the love and mercy of Jesus.

Hunger and poverty, international and domestic emergencies, ministries to immigrants and refugees, programs that build peace and make communities safe places in which to live again—these and many more ministries are possible because of United Methodists' commitment to global humanitarian relief and development.

## HOPE IS PART OF OUR RELIGION

UMCOR is the global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church, working in many countries worldwide, including the United States.

Our mission is to alleviate human suffering—whether caused by war, conflict, or natural disaster—with open minds and hearts to all people.

We partner with people to rebuild their livelihoods, health, and homes. In times of acute crisis we mobilize aid to stricken areas—emergency supplies, fresh water, and temporary shelter—and then stay, as long as it takes, to implement long-term recovery and rehabilitation.

UMCOR is a member of several global ecumenical alliances that share the same mission to restore well-being to children, women and men: Action by Churches Together, Church World Service, and Interchurch Medical Assistance. Together with these and many local partners who are at work in more than 80 countries, UMCOR embodies the life-saving humanitarian presence of the people of the United Methodist Church.

## FAST FACTS

UMCOR receives no World Service funds or other apportionments.

All our good work is enabled through generous donations to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, received the 4th Sunday of Lent, and through the second-mile giving program of the church, Advance Specials.

Every dollar donated to an Advance Special goes to the designated program. That means not a penny of an Advance donation goes to offset home office administrative or fundraising costs.